

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5           1.       A base for a compressor assembly, the base comprising:  
              a support surface;  
              a wall extending upwardly from the support surface to define a first perimeter;  
and  
              an elastomeric material positioned to cover at least a portion of the support  
10    surface and at least a portion of the wall to define a substantially fluid tight containment area.
2.       The base as set forth in claim 1, wherein the support surface defines a second  
perimeter, the first perimeter and the second perimeter being substantially equal.
- 15           3.       The base as set forth in claim 1, wherein the support surface defines a second  
perimeter, the second perimeter being larger than the first perimeter.
4.       The base as set forth in claim 1, further comprising an aperture in the fluid  
containment area and a plug dimensioned to be removably received within the aperture.  
20           5.       The base as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a fluid level sensor  
positioned in the fluid containment area to sense fluid level.
6.       The base as set forth in claim 5, wherein the fluid level sensor is further  
25    positioned to provide a signal when the fluid in the fluid containment area reaches a first  
level.
7.       The base as set forth in claim 5, wherein the fluid level sensor is further  
positioned to provide a signal when the fluid in the fluid containment area is below a first  
30    level or above a second level.
8.       The base as set forth in claim 1, wherein the base has an interior surface and  
an exterior surface and the base interior and exterior surfaces are substantially coated with the  
elastomeric material.
- 35           9.       The base as set forth in claim 8, wherein the coated exterior surface provides a  
flexible and crack resistant barrier for the base.

10. The base as set forth in claim 1, wherein the elastomeric material is substantially resistant to chemical attack.

11. The base as set forth in claim 1, wherein the elastomeric material comprises at least one of natural rubber, polybutadiene, polyurethane, ethylene propylene rubber, silicone rubber, and a combination thereof.

12. A compressor assembly comprising:  
a base defined at least partially by a support surface and a wall extending upwardly therefrom;  
an elastomeric coating positioned to cover at least a portion of the base to define a substantially fluid tight containment area; and  
a fluid compressor positioned within the base with at least a portion of the fluid compressor positioned in the containment area.

13. The compressor assembly as set forth in claim 12, wherein the wall defines a substantially enclosed perimeter.

14. The compressor assembly as set forth in claim 13, wherein the substantially enclosed perimeter supports the elastomeric coating to define the fluid containment area.

15. The compressor assembly as set forth in claim 12, wherein at least one of the support surface and the wall define a mounting surface for at least a portion of the fluid compressor.

16. The compressor assembly as set forth in claim 12, further comprising a sealable aperture in the fluid containment area.

17. The compressor assembly as set forth in claim 16, further comprising a valve in fluid communication with the aperture to allow selective fluid removal.

18. The compressor assembly as set forth in claim 12, further comprising a fluid level sensor positioned in the fluid containment area to sense fluid level.

19. The compressor assembly as set forth in claim 12, wherein the elastomeric coating comprises at least one of natural rubber, polyurethane, polybutadiene, silicone rubber, ethylene propylene rubber, and a combination thereof.

5           20. A method for assembling a compressor assembly; the method comprising:  
            providing a base having a support surface and a wall extending upwardly  
            therefrom to define a first perimeter;  
            coating at least a portion of the support surface and at least a portion of the  
            wall with an elastomeric material to define a fluid containment area; and  
10           positioning at least one fluid compressor component at least partially within  
            the first perimeter.

            21. The method as set forth in claim 0, wherein coating includes spraying an  
            elastomeric material.

15           22. The method as set forth in claim 0, wherein coating includes dipping in  
            elastomeric material.

            23. The method as set forth in claim 0, wherein coating includes brushing on an  
20           elastomeric material.

            24. The method as set forth in claim 0, wherein coating with an elastomeric  
            material includes coating with at least one of natural rubber, polyurethane, polybutadiene,  
            ethylene propylene rubber, silicone rubber, and a combination thereof.

25           25. The method as set forth in claim 0, further comprising mounting at least one  
            fluid compressor mounting component within the first perimeter prior to the coating step.

            26. The method as set forth in claim 0, wherein providing a base includes defining  
30           a plurality of substantially enclosed perimeters.

            27. The method as set forth in claim 0, further comprising:  
            providing an aperture in the fluid containment area, and  
            removably sealing the aperture.

28. The method as set forth in claim 0, further comprising:  
providing a fluid level sensor in the fluid containment area, and  
sensing fluid level in the fluid containment area with the fluid level sensor.